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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Yuji MUKAI et al. Art Unit 1797
Appln. No.: 10/581,967 Exr. N. Young
Filed: June 7, 2006 Conf. No. 7261
For: HYDROGEN GENERATING APPARATUS

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 17, 2007, Applicants request reconsideration and allowance of this application in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-13 stand rejected, under 35 USC §102(b), as being anticipated by Komiya (US 2002/0042035). The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections based on the points set forth below.

Claim 1 defines a hydrogen generator having: (1) first and second passages that branch off from a common passage at their leading ends and join each other at their trailing ends and (2) first and second turning means, within the first and second passages, respectively, that turn a mixed gas received from the common passage in opposite directions. The claimed subject matter make it possible to obtain the advantages described in paragraph